



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
	01	April	2023		31	March	2024

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name

DIOCESE OF THE INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH UK,
EUROPE AND AFRICA

Other names charity is known by

DIOCEUK

Registered charity number (if any)

1139302

Charity's principal address

Malankara House

35 Henman Close,

Swindon

Postcode

SN25 4ZW

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Rt.Rev.Abraham Mar Stephanos	Chair		Synod of Indian Orthodox Church
2	Rev. Fr. Varghese T. Mathew	Trustee		
3	Rev. Fr. Binoy C. Joshua	Trustee		
4	Rev. Fr. Stanly David James	Trustee		
5	Mr. John Samuel	Trustee		
6	Mr. Vinod Kochuparambil	Trustee		
7	Mr. Johnson P Yohannan	Trustee		
8	Mr. Libin Varghese	Trustee		
9	Mr. Abraham Kurian	Trustee		
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	All the trustees except the President is elected from the Diocesan General Assembly of Indian Orthodox Church

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The Indian Orthodox Church, also known as the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church is an Autocephalous Oriental Orthodox Church with its central office in the Indian state of Kerala. The IOC is autonomous church and headed by the Catholicose. Its present primate is Baselios Mar Thoma Mathews III, Catholicose of the East. The structure of Indian Orthodox Church is also episcopal polity. Churches in UK, Europe and African Diocese are currently under pastoral care of the diocesan bishop. Rev Abraham Mar Stephanos, who is the chairperson of the charity. Trustees are the diocesan council members. The trustees meet at least three times a year. Risks are mitigated by a careful evaluation and budgeting of the income and expenditure at the start of the financial year. Misuse of funds is safeguarded by strict adherence to the rules and regulations by all the trustees.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The Charity's objects are to provide for the following of the doctrines and beliefs of the Indian Orthodox religion and to provide and maintain places of worship and devotion for the Indian Orthodox community in United Kingdom, Ireland and elsewhere in the World and for instruction in the faith of the Church, in its tradition, history, in accordance with the Apostolic and ancient traditions of the Indian Orthodox Church propagate Christianity in accordance with the objectives and tenets of the Indian Orthodox Church, to provide for religious, educational and cultural activities of special groups like women, youth and children and to promote and carry out service activities for the benefit of the wider community and society.

Our Diocese is spread across three continents and in eight countries/five visa zones. 44 priests and four deacons are serving 65 parishes/congregations as the Vicar/Priest-in-Charge, out of them five parishes are commenced during 2023-24. We have an approximate 2450 of registered families all together. We now have nine own worship places in the UK. Under the spiritual guidance of our Diocesan Metropolitan, the Diocese is currently served by 44 priests and 4 deacons.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The trustees of DIOCEUK have considered the commission's guidance on public benefit in planning diocesan activities for the advancement of religion. The charity enables ordinary people to live out their faith as part of the Indian Orthodox Church, through the Holy Eucharist, learning about the Gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus Christ.

Pastoral care is an integral part of the whole ministry of the Church. Having a great variety of expressions, it focuses appropriately on the needs of individuals and social groups within the Church and wider community, irrespective of religious and cultural barriers.

It is good thing to notice that the migration of health workers to Europe are in the rise. We should not leave any space for any of our members are lost in the crowd or get neglected from our radar. It is our collective responsibility to find them provide support to settle down and to make part of our community and retain them in true faith and tradition.

The professional student community presently living in European countries such as Bulgaria, Romania, Paris, Lithuania, Poland and other parts of Europe are inevitable part of our diocese. Our Diocesan Metropolitan have been giving special care to our children and our clergies and lay leaders are doing their best to spiritually support them and embrace them in whatever way possible.

The Annual General Body Meeting of the Diocese for 2023 was held on 29 May 2023 at Liverpool St. Thomas Indian Orthodox Church presided by Diocesan Metropolitan HE Abraham Mar Stephanos. Further a Diocesan General Body Meeting was held on 17 September 2023 (online on ZOOM platform) and the half yearly General Body Meeting on 02 December 2023 at Leicester St. George Indian Orthodox Church. Additionally, a special meeting of the Representatives of the UK region was also held on 14 September 2023 ZOOM online platform.

The first Annual General Body Meeting of the newly elected Parish Representatives for the term 2023-2028 held on 29 May 2023 at Liverpool elected the following office bearers for the 2023 – 2028 term through online polling.

During the report year, the Diocesan Council met eighteen times, including live as well as online meetings to discuss several strategies and ways forward. Some meetings included special guests for specific agendas. The term of the current Diocesan Council concludes in May 2028.

Thank Almighty God that all the spiritual organisations in our diocese are functioning efficiently. The main objective and mission of our Church is to mould and nurture better people for the Kingdom of God. The spiritual organisations are indeed the tool and platform towards this accomplishment. Youth& MGOCSM, MOMS, OSSAE, Sports and Cultural forum, Pre-Marital Counselling and Maitri Charity project have been making exceptional progression during the reporting year.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The Diocese continues to be at the forefront in ecumenical dialogues and representations. Notably, Diocesan Metropolitan Abraham Mar Stephanos was appointed as the faith and Order Commissioner of the World Council of Churches (WCC). He is also the Chairman of the Research Study Group for Nicea 2025 (WCC). We have great involvement and participation in CTE, Churches Together in Wales, Irish Council of Churches and other Oriental Orthodox Churches.

The 2023 Sunday School Teachers Annual Conference and General Body was held at St. Thomas IOC, Hemel Hempstead on 29th April 2023. The Conference was presided by the President of OSSAE-UEA and Diocesan Metropolitan H.G. Abraham Stephanos. There were a total of 120 Participants from the Entire Diocese. A new vision, spearheaded by our Metropolitan, aimed to revamp the Sunday School Curriculum to align with western academic standards. The American Diocese syllabus, tailored for UK Europe, was chosen after a review by a core committee. A total of 52 Teachers from across the diocese volunteered for a thorough review, focusing on basic language elements. An Orientation Program was introduced for the new curriculum on November 16. By January, the revised syllabus was launched in all parishes, with textbooks available online on the Diocesan website. The Metropolitan inaugurated the new syllabus on January 14 at St. Thomas IOC Aberdeen, followed by parishes across the diocese.

An executive committee for Martha Mariam Vanitha Samajam (MMVS) consisting of general secretary, treasurer and zonal secretaries from different regions of the UK, Ireland, Europe & Africa working along with the MMVS Vice-President Fr. P. J. Binu to coordinate the MMVs activities in our Diocese was organised. Regular online committee meetings (at least once in 2 months where possible) are conducting to plan and organise the activities as per the year plan. MMVS Annual Conference 2023 was held on 28th October at Holy Innocents IOC South Wales. Around 200 members participated for the Annual Conferences 2023. The keynote addresses were delivered based on the theme "Call of God and steadfastness in faith (1 Peter 5:9,10)". Intercession prayer meetings are conducted with 50 families on a regular basis.

Diocesan Premarital Course started in November 2014, with the leadership and blessings of our Diocesan Metropolitan H.G Mathews Mar Thimothios. It has been successfully running year after year with good participation of youngsters attending from all over the Diocese. It is satisfying that during the year, the program has benefitted around 140 young adults preparing for marriage through its insightful sessions.

Parishes manage to witness Christ and help the flock in building a life worth living. Members of the Indian Orthodox Church love the church and its tradition. They have commitment towards God and the Gospel through collective efforts, manage to help a lot of people who go through difficulties. All the parishes and congregations have charity funds; huge sum if it is pooled together from which every parish gives financial assistance to various deserving people. We are complementing to the

apostolic ministry of healing the sick and raising the dead through our helps.

This year by the grace of God many new clergy members have joined our diocese and served in various Parishes across the diocese, particularly in newly formed Congregations. There are currently 44 clergy serving in the diocese and supporting the initiatives of the Diocesan Metropolitan.

There are regular Anuyathra Bible study sessions being held on the last Tuesday of every month. Throughout the year we have been able to hold 8 clergy meetings under the leadership of the diocesan metropolitan. We have been able to host an ecumenical prayer week of unity at the YMCA in London through which we have been able to maintain and uphold our ecumenical relations with other denominations.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Charity will maintain General Fund for meeting all the regular activities and for specific activities operates a Restricted Fund. Transfer between funds may be made according to the plans of the Charity. The Charity will try to keep £5000.00 in General Fund at all times.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Nothing to be noted

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Sources of fund raising are from the parish churches under the diocese, from voluntary contributions and donation from the community and fund-raising events.

Direct debit payments are setup by 70 members of the diocese towards the diocesan development which provides a consistent inflow of funds.

The diocese has procured a property as a diocese centre with an outstanding mortgage amount of £78,581. Our primary investment policy and objective is to pay off the mortgage at the earliest.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Abraham Kurian	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee	
Date	16/Dec/2024	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

DIOCESE OF INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, UK EUROPE
DIOCEUK

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01/04/2023

To

Period end date
31/03/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Voluntary contributions	42,766	23,857	-	66,623	62,975
Donation DHQ	55,946	15,862	-	71,808	27,303
Funds for activities	20,944	-	-	20,944	33,064
Maithri Project	-	7,149	-	7,149	5,709
Spiritual Organisations	-	51,390	-	51,390	-
Earthquake Relief Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Clergy Welfare Fund	-	-	-	-	11,089
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	119,656	98,258	-	217,914	140,140
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	119,656	98,258	-	217,914	140,140
A3 Payments					
Diocesan activities	3,586	79,803	-	83,389	34,322
Clergy welfare	315	1,472	-	1,787	-
Earthquake Relief Fund , Archana& Bince Charity	-	2,976	-	2,976	14,065
Employee Expense	17,968	16,500	-	34,468	21,487
NI & Taxes	-	3,163	-	3,163	7,873
Maithri	-	10,290	-	10,290	-
Mortgage payments	-	28,280	-	28,280	28,280
DHQ running cost	13,942	-	-	13,942	6,304
Tomb Restoration	-	-	-	-	2,535
Sub total	35,811	142,484	-	178,295	114,866
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	35,811	142,484	-	178,295	114,866
Net of receipts/(payments)	83,845	- 44,226	-	39,619	25,274
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	5,709	130,355	-	136,064	110,790
Cash funds this year end	89,554	86,129	-	175,683	136,064

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		89,554	86,129	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	89,554	86,129	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Diocesan Center, Malankara House,35 Henmanns Close,Swindon,SN25 4ZW		397,500	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Mortgage to HSBC Bank		78,581	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/
members of

DIOCEUK(DIOCESE OF THE INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH,UK ,
EUROPE AND AFRICA)

On accounts for the year
ended

31/03/2024

Charity no
(if any)

1139302

Set out on pages

TWO

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2024.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation
of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act
2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out
under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I
have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission
under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have
come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with
the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material
respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of
the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection
with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a
proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

14-Nov-2024

Name:

THOMAS KOSHY

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

ASSOCIATION OF CERTIFIED CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
FELLOW - RETIRED

Address:

5 KINGSMEAD PARK
CLAYGATE, SURREY
KT10 0NS